

4 questions

Terry Anderson

which direction do clouds move
when there is no wind?
where do the roads go
if they have no end?
what time is it
to a sailor lost at sea?
how do i know who i am
if i only catch a glimpse of me?

the pages of age. the memory of youth.

Dan Brewer

today does not make me older
but yesterday
 and the day before,
they do.

quietly. very quietly age interferes
with the smiles. and the trial and error game.
who's to blame except Mother.

the world isn't over when someone grows
everyone knows feelings begin

and childhood ends when the time comes.
the today time.

i no longer laugh at firecrackers
or skipping rocks
building blocks are just a background.
the world even sounds different.
maybe because i listen different.

jack and jill
three blind mice
wasn't it nice to be young?
I WANT IT BACK MOTHER.
I WANT IT BACK FROM YOU.

i am man now—everybody says.
i dream no more
the door to age—I WANT AN EXIT MOTHER.

DEAR MOTHER—
THE LEAVES ARE CRACKLING UNDER MY FEET
AND I SMELL SNOW
TELL THE OLD MAN TO GO AWAY.
HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A CRIPPLED OLD MAN'S
EYES?
THEY'RE SAD—SO VERY VERY SAD
I WON'T LET MINE BE THAT WAY
GO AWAY—HELP ME MOTHER.

have you ever seen a crippled old man's
face?
wrinkles, worn from the decisions he
had to make. please help me Mother.

if i could rule a universe
and be prince of all the fairy tales
youth would be my never ending dream.
but you are queen, Mother.

Queen Mother Nature.
make me your king, Mother,
so i will never age like you.
please.

Mother, have you ever seen a
crippled old man dying?

i feel pain Mother
help me
i am dying Mother help me.
save me.

not this way. not today
i was born today
you wicked Queen
your throne is in hell
sell my body to the devil for a match
an eternal flame.
it's a shame

Mother—you are to blame
nobody came to my funeral.
you wicked wicked Mother

age can change someone. anyone.